

REMARKS

This Supplemental Response is being submitted further to the Amendment filed October 26, 2009.

Applicants claim foreign priority to JP 2002-379003 which was filed in Japan on December 27, 2002, prior to both of the publication dates of the Winans article. To complete the record, a verified English translation of the Japanese priority applications is submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.55(a)(4)(ii), thereby perfecting Applicants' claim to foreign priority.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

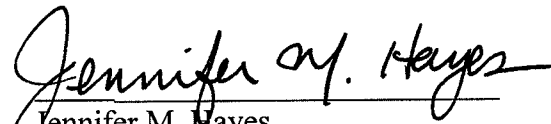
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Date: November 2, 2009


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